10088511 .073102

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claims 1-32, all of the claims set forth in the specification of the application as filed, without prejudice.

Please add new claims 33-39, as follows:

RR16 8

33. A method of selectively precipitating arsenic from a solution containing copper, ferric iron and ferrous iron whilst minimising copper losses which includes the steps of:

(a) introducing an acidic solution containing arsenic(V), copper, ferric iron and ferrous iron in succession into each of a series of continuously stirred tank reactors;

(b) adjusting the pH of the solution in each of said tank reactors and adding air to the solution to oxidise a portion of the ferrous iron to ferric iron and heating the solution to an elevated temperature to increase the rate of ferric arsenate precipitation and to minimise copper co-precipitation;

(c) recycling a portion of selectively precipitated ferric arsenate compounds exiting a final tank in the series to a first tank in the series;

(d) seeding the solution with ferric arsenate compounds to provide seeds for enhanced crystalline formation; and

(e) maintaining the pH of the solution in a second tank in the series at a pH of about 1.5 and selectively precipitating ferric arsenate compounds from the seeded aqueous solution with a first calcium-containing neutralising agent.

34. The method according to claim 33 wherein the molar ratio of iron to arsenic of the solution is at least 1.

35. The method according to claim 33 wherein the elevated temperature in step (b) is above 60°C and below 100°C.

36. The method according claim 33 wherein steps (a) through (e) are conducted at atmospheric pressure.

37. The method according to claim 33 wherein the first neutralising agent used in step (e) is limestone.

38. The method according to claim 33 further including the steps of maintaining the pH of the solution in a third tank in the series at a pH of about 1.9 and selectively precipitating ferric arsenate compounds from the solution with a second calcium-containing neutralising agent.

39. The method according to claim 38 wherein the second neutralising agent is limestone.

IN THE ABSTRACT:

Please add the Abstract of the Disclosure as set forth on the separate accompanying sheet.